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FINAL REPORT

U.S. and USSR Specialists Meeting for the Project, "Protection and Management of Lakes and ESTUARIES," of the Working Group on "Water Pollution Prevention" (MOSCOW, IRKUTSK, Baikalsk, Bolshye Koty, Listvenka, 14-24 August, 1973)

OPINION 5 NOV 73

I

In accordance with the US-USSR Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection, the delegation of American Specialists dealing with investigation of lakes and estuaries visited the USSR from the 13th to the 25th of August 1973.

During the visit, the US and Soviet experts in the Project carried out plans set forth in the record of discussions of the first meeting of the Joint Soviet-American Working Group on the problem of "Water Pollution Prevention," signed in Moscow on March 23, 1973.

The American delegation was headed by Doctor John Buckley, Deputy Director, Office of Research of the US Environmental Protection Agency.

The Soviet delegation was headed by Doctor A. A. Zenin, Director of the Hydrochemical Institute of the Main Administration of the Hydrometeorological Service of the USSR.

The list of delegation members is attached.

II

A two-day joint meeting of the Soviet and American experts was held in Moscow where the following four reports of Soviet specialists were presented concerning hydrological and hydrochemical investigations in Lake Baikal:

1. The study of the effect of effluents of the Cellulose Plant upon chemical composition of Lake Baikal - Dr. A. Zenin

(4)

FINAL REPORT

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OPTICAL 5 NOV 73

I

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1. The study of the effect of effluents of the Cellulose Plant upon chemical composition of Lake Baikal - Dr. A. Zenin

2. The main elements of chemical balance of Lake Baikal at present - Dr. A. Matveev

3. The complex hydrological investigations in Lake Baikal - Dr. V. Znamensky

4. The water balance in Lake Baikal - Dr. Z. Vikulina

Information also was presented by Dr. V. Vetrov concerning application of a radioactive isotope for tracing the Baikal plant effluents in Lake Baikal water.

The American delegation presented the following informal reports.

1. Review of the Great Lakes Research Program - its Aims and Objectives - Dr. T. Davies

2. Review of the Fisheries Program - Dr. J. Carr

3. Methods and equipment used for hydrologic investigations in Lake Superior - W. Rittall

4. Limnological Problems associated with the threat of eutrophication of Lake Tahoe - Dr. C. Goldman

The technical field trip of the Soviet and American specialists to Lake Baikal included a visit to the waste treatment facilities of the Baikalsk Cellulose Plant and a drying shop of the plant, a laboratory of the Baikal hydrochemical expedition of the Hydrochemical Institute in Baikalsk, a Biological Station of the Irkutsk State University in Bolshyie Koty settlement, laboratories of the Limnological Institute of the Siberian Section of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and several regions of Lake Baikal where investigations are being carried out by Soviet scientists.

The American specialists had an opportunity to become familiar with the organization and the system of carrying out hydrological and hydrochemical observations in the Lake, with the methods of pollutant determinations in water, with the investigations of decomposition of lignin

[illegible] and with automated devices to monitor effluents of the [illegible] Cellulose Plant.

At the Biological Station of the Irkutsk University, the US specialists were familiarized with the methods and results of hydrobiological research on phytoplankton, zooplankton and benthos, and investigations of primary productivity using C^{14}.

At the Limnological Institute, staff scientists presented some general reviews about the results of their work in the fields of geomorphology, hydrology, hydrochemistry, and biological productivity of Lake Baikal.

Within the course of information exchange, both delegations concluded that further exchange of information is highly desirable:

- on methods of integrating investigations so that the contributions of all scientific disciplines--biological, chemical and physical--can together produce a complete understanding of lakes. Such integration must take place at all stages of research from planning through investigation to data analysis and publication;
- on methods of evaluating population levels, population dynamics, and relationships among bacteria, plant and animal organisms at all trophic levels, and relationships of these parameters to hydrologic and hydrochemical conditions;
- on the assessment of pollutant levels in fish, both for purposes of evaluating the effects on fish and human food, and as indicators of pollutant conditions in lakes and their tributaries;
- on methods of evaluation of meteorological and hydrological regimes of lakes (water and heat balance, hydrodynamic processes, water exchange between separate parts of lakes, measurement and calculation of currents, turbulent exchange, diffusion and distribution of pollutants);

- on principles of observation station distribution for physical, chemical and hydrobiological indices including the selection of components and parameters to be investigated for various basins;
- on study of decomposition of lignin, cellulose, phenols, organic compounds containing sulphur, oil products, and detergents;
- on instrumentation applications (including automated systems) to measure concentrations of biogenic substances and pollutants in the zone of effluent influence and in the pure zones of basins;
- on methods of forecasting water quality with regard to pollutants;
- on pollutant standards for effluents of various industrial plants.

Both sides consider it necessary to carry out inter-comparisons of existing methods of analysis. To initiate this program, the American delegation was provided with one part of a sample collected in the vicinity of Baikalsk. Each side will analyze the sample for trace elements according to the methods it now uses. In addition, the American side was provided the opportunity to collect water samples in Lake Baikal (in the areas of the Selenga shallow water, the Barguzin Bay, and Alchon Island) which are being analyzed for trace elements and primary productivity using Carbon^{14}.

Prior to the scheduled visit of the USSR delegation to the United States, 1974, there will be an exchange of both standard samples prepared at lake concentrations and samples of Great Lakes Water and Lake Baikal Water split for analysis by laboratories of both countries.

In addition to exchange of visits by specialist delegations, visits of several weeks or months by individual scientists to work with colleagues in laboratories of the other side is desirable to permit intimate familiarization with the equipment, instruments, and methods used. Both sides agreed that dates and programs of such visits will be arranged by correspondence between chairmen of Working Groups on the problem, "Water Pollution Prevention."

Both sides consider it very desirable to develop cooperation concerning improvement of waste treatment from the cellulose industry, and recommend that particular emphasis be given to this activity within the framework of project, "Water Pollution Prevention by Effluents from Industrial and Municipal Sources" (Project IV, Working Group 2 of Memorandum of Agreement Between the US and the USSR on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection).

During the visit to the Baikalsk area, visible emissions of pollutants to the atmosphere were very evident. Both sides recommend that air pollution prevention by cellulose plants be considered by the Working Group on Air Pollution Prevention.

Both delegations express their satisfaction that the first visit of US specialists under the Project "Protection and Management of Lakes and Estuaries" was held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding contributing to further development of cooperation between the two sides.

During the technical field trip to Lake Baikal, there was ample opportunity for detailed personal and general discussion between the specialists of both sides to clarify technical matters.

At the Baikalsk Cellulose Plant, the delegations were given an extensive tour of the waste treatment facilities, and all information requested concerning operation of the facilities was provided. The extensive waste treatment facilities are providing a high quality of

[illegible], which, according to data reported to the American side, [illegible] exceptionally good for a plant of this kind.

III

It was tentatively agreed that Soviet specialists will visit the US early September 1974. During their two-week stay, visits will be made to laboratories working on hydrology, chemistry, limnology and fisheries. Field trips will be made to one or more of the Great Lakes and perhaps Lake Tahoe.

The American delegation much appreciated the cooperative fulfilling of its requests during the technical field trip to Lake Baikal.

This Final Report was signed in Moscow on August 25, 1973, in two copies, English and Russian, both copies being equally valid.

J. Buckley
Chairman of the US Working Group
on Problem II

A. A. Zenin
Chairman of Project
"Protection and Management of
Lakes and Estuaries" Problem II

U.S. DELEGATION TO THE SOVIET UNION
FOR
VISIT OF SPECIALISTS ON
PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF LAKES AND ESTUARIES
AUGUST 13-24, 1973

Dr. John Buckley
Deputy Director, Office of Program Integration
Office of Research and Development
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Head of Delegation and Chairman of U.S. Working Group on Cooperation in Water Pollution Prevention

Dr. Tudor T. Davies, Geochemist
Director, Grosse Ile Laboratory, EPA
Chairman, Sub-projects on Protection and Management of Lakes and Estuaries

Ralph Scott, Engineer
National Environmental Research Center-Corvallis, EPA
Pulp and Paper Waste Treatment Research

Walter Rittall, Physical Oceanographer
National Environmental Research Center-Corvallis, EPA

John Carr, Fisheries Biologist
Assistant Director, Great Lakes Fishery Laboratory
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife
Department of the Interior

Dr. Charles R. Goldman, Limnologist
Division of Environmental Studies
University of California
Davis, California 95616

USSR DELEGATION AT SOVIET-AMERICAN MEETING OF SPECIALISTS ON PROJECT, "PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF LAKES AND ESTUARIES

Dr. A. A. Zenin - Head of Delegation
Director of Hydrochemical Institute of Main Administration of Hydrometeorological Service of the USSR
Chief of Project, "Protection and Management of Lakes and Estuaries"

Dr. A. A. Matveev
Chief of Laboratory of Hydrochemical Institute

Dr. V. A. Znamensky
Head of Laboratory of Hydrological Institute
(Hydrometeorological Service of the USSR)

N. A. Efimtsev
Chief of Irkutsk Hydrometeorological Service

Dr. O. M. Kozheva
Director of Biological-Geographical Institute of Irkutsk State University

In the work of Soviet-American Meeting, the Following Representatives participated:

Representative of Hydrometeorological Service
Head of Administration on Study and Monitoring of Environmental Pollution
Dr. N. K. Gasilina

Representative of Soviet-American Committee
Yu. E. Kazakov

Representatives of Ministry of Reclamation and Water Management of the USSR - Mrs. S. F. Korbut and Senior Scientist of Research Institute on Water Management - V. F. Tsvilikov

Experts:

Dr. Z. A. Vikulina
Senior Scientist of Hydrological Institute

Dr. V. A. Vetrov
Senior Scientist of Main Administration of Hydrometeorological Service of the USSR

15 OCT 1973

Evaluation of The Meeting of the U.S. and Soviet Subgroups to Study River Basin Modelling and Planning, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Washington, and New York, September 26 to October 9, 1973.

The Soviet delegation was made up of three specialists: V.R. Lozanskiy, Director of the All-Union Scientific Research Insititute on Water Protection (VNIIVO); Y.V. Yeryemenko, a hydrologist on the staff of that Institute; and V.B. Stradomskiy, Deputy Director of the Hydrochemical Institute.

On the U.S. side, a wide range of technical and administrative personnel from Agency Regional and National offices and cooperating commissions and corporations took part.

The Soviets' scientific background and current research responsibilities are such that they are not primarily concerned with the process of planning and implementing water pollution abatement measures. For this reason their own personal interest is almost entirely in technical problems of modelling. They were most eager for information on the methodology of formulating models, the extent of their development, the collection of data to develop and verify the models, and the usefulness of the models in the planning and surveillance processes. They are also interested in our computer capabilities. It should be pointed out that the Soviets are lagging in computer development and are happy for any information they can receive on U.S. information processing technology.

Reflecting this interest, the Soviets responded best to highly professional presentations of the theory and practice of river basin modelling, particularly those by O'Connor, Thomann, and Mancini of Hydroscience, Tortoriello and Porges of the Delaware River Basin Commission, and David Dunsmore of the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission.

The Soviets were also interested in the actual equipment being used to treat effluents or to monitor effluent or stream quality. In this respect, visits to the Gulf Oil Company refinery in Philadelphia; Hoffman-LaRoche pharmaceutical company in Harmony, New Jersey; Green Valley Farms near Kennett Square, Pennsylvania; the Tri-County Conservancy in the Brandywine Valley; the National Environmental Research Center in Cincinnati; and the Wantagh Sewage Treatment Plant were particularly rewarding.

For a number of reasons the Soviets expressed little interest in the legal technicalities of the U.S. planning process or problems arising in planning, implementation, or enforcement. These reasons include their own scientific background, the fact that the Soviet effort has not yet reached the implementation stage, and the delicate nature of any discussion of the Soviet political decision-making process. Presentations on the Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 and the State, Regional, and basin planning processes were received politely but without enthusiasm. Discussion of the problems arising from overlapping Federal, State, and local responsibilities called forth a remark that the unified Soviet political system precluded such problems in their country.

It was apparent during the discussions that the three Soviet specialists who took part in these meetings are seriously interested in continuing an exchange of information in the environmental field. They proposed their own topics for future discussion and spoke of the necessity of achieving some concrete results as soon as possible in order to convince those in their own country who are skeptical about the value of the project. However, the Soviet participants' interest is almost exclusively technical. It is likely that they wish to use U.S. experience in this area to improve their own programs. Furthermore, even in this realm of technical exchange, they insisted that in the early stages of discussion of modelling and planning methodologies, they would have to rely on a hypothetical basin. While the reason given for the necessity of adopting this approach--lack of sufficient data at the present time--was no doubt a real one, it was clear that the Soviet scientists lacked the authority to promise U.S. planners that they would have access to data in the future. The Soviet Union has historically withheld economic, demographic, and production data from all but the narrowest circle of party leaders and planners. Provision of such information to Americans would represent a major reversal of long-standing policy. Lozanskiy did say that he would press B. G. Shtepa, Soviet leader of the Water Pollution Working Group, to make such data available.

The participants' commitment to the exchange program was seen in the Soviets' acceptance of U.S. proposals to exchange information on the processes of implementation and enforcement, despite their own lack of interest in these topics and the extremely political nature of some of the questions involved.

The most concrete result of the meetings was the Soviets' new understanding of the technical aspects of the U.S. water pollution abatement program. They also gained a lesser understanding of the legal and administrative principals which influence our actions.

The U.S. participants learned a few isolated facts about the Soviet effort. The technique discussed in some detail was a plan to use holding tanks to dampen sudden variations of effluent discharge or to permit release during high flow periods to take advantage of increased assimilative capacity. The existence of an effluent discharge permit system was mentioned, but no details were given. U.S. planners' knowledge of Soviet pollution abatement efforts, particularly problems in implementation and enforcement, has so far come chiefly from their own reading of Soviet periodicals. There is a serious question as to whether the U.S. will ever receive substantive data in any way comparable to that which we are prepared to provide the Soviets.

The meetings in Washington also resulted in a fairly detailed agreement (enclosed) outlining goals and procedures for future cooperation. But this agreement must be approved by the U.S. and Soviet leaders of the Water Pollution Working Group.

From a longer-range perspective, U.S.-USSR exchange program could result not just in some increased understanding on both sides of the other's problems, but also in an improved anti-pollution effort in the Soviet Union. As Lozanskiy explained, the All-Union Scientific Research Institute on Water Protection, which he directs, is responsible for formulating plans governing the use of water resources throughout the Soviet Union. The Institute's plans, when adopted by the Ministry for Reclamation and Water Management and by Gosplan (the State economic planning agency), become binding on all other ministries and economic organizations. Reflecting the new concern with the environment, water quality considerations are now to be included in the Institute's plans, and, beginning in 1975, in Gosplan's five-year economic plans as well.

The exchange of information on environmental problems and possible approaches to them could have an important impact on the seriousness with which the Soviets view environmental issues and the methods they choose to deal with them. Such a result of the exchange would of course be a fulfillment of the goal outlined in Title V, Section Seven, of the Water Pollution Control Act, which calls on the President to negotiate international and multilateral agreements to prevent discharge of pollutants, particularly into the oceans.

This report was prepared by Faith T. Campbell of the Water Planning Division on the basis of her participation in the discussions of river basin modelling and planning, tours of facilities, and in drawing up the proposed work plan.

FINAL REPORT

of the US and USSR Specialists Meeting for the Project, "Studies and Modelling of River Basin Pollution," of the Working Group on "Water Pollution Prevention" (Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Washington, D.C., New York, 26 September - 9 October, 1973)

In accordance with the US-USSR Agreement on Co-operation in the field of Environmental Protection, signed 23 May, 1972, and the work program agreed upon by the Joint Soviet-American Working Group in Moscow on 23 March, 1973, a delegation of Soviet Specialists dealing with river basin modelling and planning visited the US from the twenty-sixth of September to the ninth of October, 1973.

The Soviet Delegation was headed by V.R. Lozanskiy, Director of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute on Water Protection (VNIIVO). The US side was led by Mark A. Pisano, Director, Water Planning Division, Environmental Protection Agency. A list of participants is attached.*

During their visit the Soviets discussed modelling and planning problems with responsible officials in the Delaware and Ohio river basins. They also observed the operation of treatment plants and research facilities in these basins.

Among those who spoke with the Soviet delegation during this part of the trip were the following:

1. Richard Tortoriello and Ralph Porges of the Delaware River Basin Commission, on their basin planning methodology;

2. Ray Hill, Charles Buck, and Phillip Gratke of the Gulf Oil Refinery, on new approach to treating refinery effluents;

3. Mr. Sideris of Hoffman-LaRoche Pharmaceutical Company, on that company's effluent treatment system;

*See Annex I

4. Benjamin Reynolds of Green Valley Farms, on the treatment of dairy farm wastes and experimental use of effluent for crop irrigation;

5. Tom Cahill of the Tri-County Conservancy on planning methodology in the Brandywine River Basin;

6. Val Adamkus and Al Liebling of the Environmental Protection Agency, Region V, and C.R. Ownby, Ohio River Basin Coordinator, on the concept of Regional planning and the legal parameters of current pollution abatement strategies;

7. David Dunsmore of the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission on its modelling and monitoring techniques;

8. Fred E. Morr and J.M. Furman of the Ohio River Basin Commission on the formation and functioning of river basin commissions and the role of the States in river basin planning.

The following people took part in the in-depth discussion of river basin modelling and planning in Washington, D.C.:

1. James Meek and John Marler of the Environmental Protection Agency, on the development of basin, Regional, and facilities planning;

2. D.J. O'Connor, Robert Thomann, and John Mancini of Hydroscience, on approaches to river basin modelling and the model developed for the Delaware Estuary;

3. Robert Horn, Philip Taylor, and Philip Lindenstruth of the Environmental Protection Agency, on monitoring techniques.

The Soviet and American participants also discussed and agreed upon a proposal outlining their future goals and the means of realizing them.* Briefly, the goals are to improve the methodology of water planning, to give each side a thorough understanding of the other's current planning methodology, implementation and enforcement procedures

*See Annex II

and problems, and to broaden each side's perspective on its own pollution problems. The means of realizing these goals consist of exchanging information on the 1) the goals of the pollution abatement programs; 2) the formulation of models and collection and utilization of data in their verification and application; and 3) the implementation of the plans. The final step is an experiment in which each country's planners would draw up a plan for one of their own rivers, using the other's planning methodology and data and legal and institutional norms. Implementation of this proposal would follow its approval by the leaders of the Water Pollution Working Group.

The final report was signed in Washington, D.C. on October 7, 1973 in two copies, English and Russian, being equally valid.

M. A. Pisano

Head of U.S. Delegation

V. R. Lazanskiy

Head of U.S.S.R. Delegation

PARTICIPANTS

Soviet Delegation:

Head: V.R. Lozanskiy, Director of the All-Union Scientific Research Institution on Water Protection (VNIIVO)

Y.V. Yeryomenko, Leader of the Hydrolics Laboratory, All-Union Scientific Institute on Water Protection

V.B. Stradomskiy, Deputy Director of the Hydrochemical Institute

U.S. Participants:

Head: Mark A. Pisano, Director, Water Planning Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency

W.P. Somers, Hydrologist, Water Planning Division United States Environmental Protection Agency

F.T. Campbell, Program Analyst, Water Planning Division United States Environmental Protection Agency

Interpreter: Vladimir Storojev, United States Department of State

6 October, 1973

Work Plan for the Joint U. S.-U.S.S.R. Group on Studies and Modelling of River Basin Pollution

It is proposed that the study have the following objectives:

1. To improve the methodology of water pollution planning through exchange of information and comparison of techniques, especially those concerned with optimization.

2. To give each side a thorough understanding of the method by which the other prepares a river basin plan, including the goals of the pollution abatement program, the data to be included, and the methods of obtaining and utilizing the data. Realization of this goal will take the form of access to the completed basin plans and observation of the process of their formulation.

3. To give each side a thorough understanding of the manner in which each side implements and enforces its basin plans, including legal and administrative responsibilities, plan adoption mechanisms, and implementation and enforcement procedures.

4. To give each side a broadened perspective from which to view pollution problems by a comparison of the U.S. and Soviet planning methodologies. Realization of this goal will take the form of each side drawing up a basin plan for one of their own rivers in compliance with the other's planning methodology and institutional and legal constraints.

The following steps are seen as providing the means for realizing these goals:

1. As an initial step, each side will become thoroughly familiar with the other's planning process. At this stage of the exchange, the extent of the pollution problem, goals and broad approach of the planning agency, the reasons for choosing a particular planning methodology, the type of plan expected to result and its relationship to the pollution problem are to be discussed.

2. The second step of the study should be to become familiar with the actual planning process. At the present time information on the following topics can be exchanged: which data are considered relevant; how they are collected and put into workable form; including advanced monitoring techniques; and the development and operation of the model, including a consideration of advanced modelling and optimization techniques.

It is envisaged that hypothetical river basins may be used in order to facilitate the process of mutual familiarization with the planning methodology. Simultaneously, work on actual river basin plans should be commenced. The achieved results will be discussed at the symposium which is scheduled to take place in the U.S.S.R. in 1975.

3. The third step of the study will consist of exchanging information on the implementation and enforcement of the plan. It can be implemented gradually as the river basin plans are realized. At the present time the legal and administrative framework for implementation and enforcement can be explained. Later, as problems in implementation are encountered, they will be discussed.

4. The culminating stage of the joint study will be the comparison of U.S. and Soviet planning systems. Each country's planners will utilize the other's planning methodology to draw up a pollution abatement plan which conforms to the institutional and legal constraints of that system. The resulting plans will be compared to the actual river basin plans in order to point up differences of approach between the two countries' planning systems and the relative strengths and weaknesses of these approaches.

The members of the river basin modelling sub-group accept these goals and implementing steps as an outline of their proposed joint study, subject to the approval of the leaders of the Water Pollution Working Group.

Implementing Steps for the Proposed Work Plan.

The United States will carry out river basin management plans for the Delaware and Ohio Rivers.

The Soviet Union will initiate a river basin water quality management system for the Severskiy Donets; it will also prepare a model plan for that river, to be completed prior to the meeting of the symposium in the USSR.

The United States will send the Soviet side information concerning monitoring and a computer equipment within one month.

The U.S. delegation thinks it would be advisable for each side to send a technician to the other country to promote a fuller understanding at each side's planning system and legal and institutional approaches.

The U.S. and USSR will send additional technical, legal, and institutional information within three months to be used in preparing the experimental basin plans.

Both countries will meet in the USSR to discuss the status of their planning projects in the autumn of 1975.

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Water Pollution

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FOR SCI, CEQ AND EPA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV UR
SUBJ: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT: WATER POLLUTION: PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF DISCHARGES

REF: STATE 202901

1. KAZAKOV OF HYDORMET INFORMED EMBASSY OCTOBER 25 THAT THE SOVIET SIDE IS AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF THE US DELEGATION IN EARLY DECEMBER. CAHILL'S REQUEST FOR SIX-MAN DELEGATION STILL BEING CONSIDERED AND SHOULD BE DECIDED SOON.

2. YAKOVLEV WILL SEND TELEGRAM TO CAHILL SOON ON PROGRAM AND DATES FOR VISIT AND DECISION ON SIZE OF US DELEGATION. EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED COPY OF FULL PROGRAM AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE AND WILL REPORT IT WHEN RECEIVED. DUBS